



House News

Georgia House of Representatives - March 2006

This Week in the House

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Atlanta - This past week saw the most legislative action the Georgia House has seen in a very long time. With Monday being "Crossover Day," the House went into the wee hours of the morning to finalize their versions of bills that could potentially become law. Passage of three score plus bills left lawmakers tired but happy that so much meaningful legislation was adopted before the Senate's cut off for accepting House bills.

And, with the deadline looming, during a short dinner break, the House Rules Committee met again to recommend passage of yet another lengthy calendar. So called "crossover day", the thirtieth day of the legislative session, is the last day that either chamber will accept, for review, bills and resolutions from the other. The idea is to allow careful consideration of one another's proposals during the last remaining weeks; yet it does make for a long day.

Sent to the Senate was a broad range of legislation covering topics from the age of dependents covered under accident and sickness policies to provisions regulating shrimping. Also passed was a reduction in the homestead exemption for senior citizens and legislation authorizing the creation of a joint House and Senate Water Desalination Study Committee to work during the interim considering alternative ways of making sure that coastal and south Georgia

have an adequate water supply.

Following Monday night's marathon session with the final gavel sounding close to 2am, House members reconvened on Tuesday to a significantly lighter calendar. The House considered and quickly passed two senate measures, one which pertains to the distribution of state flags for the purposes of honoring certain public officials. The legislation provides for the honoring of Georgia Public Safety Officers who are killed in the line of duty or who have passed away following extended service to the people of Georgia by providing State flags in their honor. Senate Bill 381 was approved and sent to the governor's desk with a vote of 148 to 0.

The other Senate measure considered was SB 436 which also passed unanimously. The measure makes some simple changes affecting meetings held by the State Board of Technical and Adult Education.

On Wednesday, the House overwhelmingly approved three Senate measures addressing a diverse range of issues. SB 486 amends the provisions concerning direct sellers, such as Avon and Mary-Kay dealers, to exempt them from the definition of employment for insurance purposes. SB 264 changes the terms of the Pataula Superior Court Circuit. And finally SB 120 received a final passage with a vote of 157 to 4

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March

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Calvin Robinson	3rd
Arrie Porter	18th
Dan O'Conner	25th



Greetings from Human Resources

Day 34 is here and we're counting down.....

Things appear to have calmed down with the Page Desk. Please let me know if you continue to have any difficulty. We've made one small change in the Page Process and will probably retain this adjustment or some form of it. The Page Application has been taken off the website and applicants are being directed to their Representatives to apply. This will help to limit the number of applications as we near the end of session as well as ensure the Representatives have ultimate approval regarding their pages.

Recently, I sent an e-mail regarding deliveries and

a lack of resources and availability from our postal staff. Please continue to coordinate your requests through the Human Resource office, advising ahead of time when you know you have a request. This will help this office and the postal staff to better plan and ensure you receive your delivery when you need it.

Thanks to our temporary staff for hanging in here with us. They've been a great help and we couldn't have done it without them. Hopefully, it's been a positive experience for them as well.

Spring is almost here and I'm interested in your ideas to re-energize ourselves and maybe have some fun as we go into off peak season. Please e-mail me with suggestions.

Arrie B. Porter

Congratulations!

To Scotty and Debra Long on the birth of their child

Katherine Debra (Kate) Long
March 17, 2006
1:02 AM
8 lbs. 5 oz.
20 3/4 inches long

To
Colton Karrantza

(son of Gina McKinney)
and his friend

Garrett Dutton

on a successful interview with Representative John Lunsford, Representative Steve Davis, and Speaker Glenn Richardson for a school project! You can view the video on our website under daily updates - Virtual Visits!



This Week in the House - Continued

During the final legislative of this week lawmakers faced another light calendar, taking up and amending only two Senate Bills. Senate Bill 209 was amended and favorably passed with a unanimous vote. The legislation would affect the Public Service Commission making general provision changes to the time period for issuance of a commission order after a hearing regarding a gas supply plan and adjustment factors filed by a gas utility. Legislators also took under consideration

Senate Bill 472. The bill passed with overwhelming support, and is necessary to separate the state workers incentive program from the retirement program. This will facilitate retirement pay calculations and gives the office of planning and budget a say on the matter.

The amended measures now return to the Senate for their approval. After recessing, a number of representatives spent the remainder of the day in committee meetings preparing for Day 40, the final day of the 2006 Legislative Session.

-by Brent Cranfield

Employee Spotlight!

Stacy Warrior Williams Administrative Assistant

Stacy was born and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She is the second oldest of three daughters, and grew up in a household where her Dad's attempts to impart skills like raking the yard (by saying it was great exercise) were usually outnumbered by the thrills and frills associated with femininity. She hails from a very close



family and is thankful that her parents instilled the values of determination and commitment in their girls very early in their childhood. Though her Dad is now deceased, his memory remains quite evident in Stacy's family through their discussions, actions and even future plans. Stacy is married to her high school sweetheart, Chuck Williams, and will soon celebrate their 11th wedding anniversary. Stacy and Chuck

have one daughter, Alexis, who is affectionately known as "Tutti Fruity". Now at 6 years old, Alexis works hard to manage her busy calendar which typically involves the entire family! She is a Star Student at Ben Hill Christian Academy and is enthusiastically looking forward to her kindergarten graduation in May. Additionally, Alexis is a very active Girl Scout Daisy with membership in Troop 2025. She is a passionate and serious dancer - studying ballet and tap. The latest motion skill in her repertoire includes acrobatics which is vastly becoming her favorite. She has announced that she plans to include "hip-hop" techniques to her dance schedule next year! Now, Stacy understands how her Mom shepherded she and her sisters around when she was Lexi's age!

Stacy began working in the Georgia state political arena a little over ten years ago. Her career in the state legislature includes working in Governor Roy Barnes' administration for 4 years followed by assistance to House Speaker Terry Coleman before working in her current role in the House Minority Office. She says that she is just about ready to write a book!

When spare time is available, Stacy enjoys shopping with her Mom, sisters and Tutti Fruity, dating Chuck, taking spa trips, taking evening walks, traveling and cooking. Stacy is basking in this period of her life and says that "All in all, life is good!"

-Stacy Warrior Williams